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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/037,263	12/31/2001	Joseph T. Pallante	01-40164-US	6175
7590	03/10/2005		EXAMINER	
Louis M. Heidelberger, Esq. Reed Smith LLP 2500 One Liberty Place 1650 Market Street Philadelphia, PA 19103			WINTER, JOHN M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3621	
DATE MAILED: 03/10/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/037,263	PALLANTE, JOSEPH T.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	John M Winter	3621	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 December 2001.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-116 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) 36-116 is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-23 and 25-34 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) 24 is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ .

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-116 have been examined

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-23,25-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Graham et al. (US Patent 6,625,267) in view of Downs et al. (US Patent 6,574,609).

As per claim 1,

Graham et al. ('267) discloses a method for providing transactional billing for trusted third party services offered to a plurality of users via a computer network, said method comprising:

parsing said log records to generate billing information;(column 7, lines 31-41), providing said billing information to at least one processing application which processes said billing information and generates a plurality of bills dependently thereupon. (column 9, lines 23-42)

Graham et al. ('267) does not explicitly disclose " generating at least one log record indicative of at least one of said users submitting at least one electronic document for trusted third party services; generating at least one log record indicative of forwarding said at least one electronic document to at least a second of said plurality of users" Downs et al ('609) discloses " generating at least one log record indicative of at least one of said users submitting at least one electronic document for trusted third party services;(Abstract) generating at least one log record indicative of forwarding said at least one electronic document to at least a second of said plurality of users". (Column 8, lines 31-39) It would be obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the Graham ('267) method with the Downs et al ('609) method in order to profile system usage by user.

As per claim 2,

Graham et al. ('267) discloses the method of claim 1,

further comprising capturing information indicative of a billing label from said first user, wherein at least a portion of said captured information is included in at least one of said log records. (Column 7, lines 31-41)

As per claim 3,

Graham et al. ('267) discloses the method of claim 2,

wherein said billing label is associated with at least said submitting. (Column 9, lines 6-11)

As per claim 4,

Graham et al. ('267) discloses the method of claim 2,

wherein said billing label is indicative of a client identifier. (Column 9, lines 6-11)

As per claim 5,

Graham et al. ('267) discloses the method of claim 2,

wherein said billing label is indicative of a credit card. (Column 9, lines 6-20)

As per claim 6,

Graham et al. ('267) discloses the method of claim 1,

further comprising capturing information indicative of a billing label from said at least second user, wherein at least some of said captured information is included in at least one of said log records.(Column 7, lines 42-65)

Graham et al. ('267) discloses the claimed invention except for "second user", It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a second user, since it has been held that mere duplication of the essential working parts of a device involves only routine skill in the art. *St Regis Paper Co. v. Bemis Co.*, 193 USPQ 8.

As per claim 7,

Graham et al. ('267) discloses the method of claim 6,

Graham et al. ('267) does not explicitly disclose billing label is associated with at least said forwarding. Downs et al. ('609) discloses billing label is associated with at least said forwarding;(Column 2, lines 21-34) It would be obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the Graham et al. ('267) method with the Downs et al. ('609) method in order to complete the transaction by allowing the customer to receive the product.

As per claim 8,

Graham et al. ('267) discloses the method of claim 6,

wherein said billing label is indicative of a client identifier. (Column 9, lines 6-11)

As per claim 9,

Graham et al. ('267) discloses the method of claim 6,

wherein said billing label is indicative of a credit card. (Column 9, lines 6-11)

As per claim 11,

Graham et al. ('267) discloses the method of claim 1,

Graham et al. ('267) does not explicitly disclose generating at least one log record indicative of notifying at least said second of said plurality of users of said submitting. Downs et al. ('609) discloses generating at least one log record indicative of notifying at least said second

of said plurality of users of said submitting;(Column 8, lines 31-39) It would be obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the Graham et al. ('267) method with the Downs et al. ('609) method in order to authenticate customers.

As per claim 16,

Graham et al. ('267) discloses the method of claim 1,
wherein said log entries are indicative of discreet times respectively associated therewith.(Column 9, lines 49-59)

As per claim 17,

Graham et al. ('267) discloses the method of claim 1,
wherein said users are separated into a plurality of subsets, each of said subsets being associated with a subscribing entity. (Column 9, lines 6-11)

As per claim 18,

Graham et al. ('267) discloses the method of claim 1,
wherein at least one said subscribing entity is a firm. (Column 9, lines 6-11)

As per claim 19,

Graham et al. ('267) discloses the method of claim 17,
further comprising providing at least one of said plurality of bills to at least one of said subscribing entities.(Column 9, lines 49-64)

As per claim 20,

Graham et al. ('267) discloses the method of claim 19,
wherein said at least one electronic document and said at least one of said plurality of bills are respectively submitted and provided via said computer network. (Column 9, lines 23-38)

As per claim 21,

Graham et al. ('267) discloses the method of claim 19,
wherein said at least one of said plurality of bills is provided via said computer network.
(Column 9, lines 23-38)

As per claim 22,

Graham et al. ('267) discloses the method of claim 17,
wherein ones of said user's in one of said subsets are associated with one or more groups.
(Column 9, lines 6-20)

As per claim 23,

Graham et al. ('267) discloses the method of claim 1,
further comprising storing data indicative of default billing information for each of said
users. (Column 9, lines 6-22)

As per claim 25,

Graham et al. ('267) discloses the method of claim 1,

Graham et al. ('267) does not explicitly disclose computer network comprises a global
interconnection of computers and computer networks. Downs et al. ('609) discloses computer
network comprises a global interconnection of computers and computer networks;(Figure 1C) It
would be obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to
combine the Graham et al. ('267) method with the Downs et al. ('609) method in order to
provide inexpensive communication means.

As per claim 26,

Graham et al. ('267) discloses the method of claim 1,

Graham et al. ('267) does not explicitly disclose generating a log record indicative of
storing said at least one submitted electronic document. Downs et al. ('609) discloses generating
a log record indicative of storing said at least one submitted electronic document; (Abstract) It
would be obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to
combine the Graham et al. ('267) method with the Downs et al. ('609) method in order to profile
consumer spending trends.

As per claim 27,

Graham et al. ('267) discloses the method of claim 26,

Graham et al. ('267) does not explicitly disclose encrypting said submitted electronic
document prior to said storing. Downs et al. ('609) discloses encrypting said submitted
electronic document prior to said storing; (Abstract) It would be obvious to one having ordinary
skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the Graham et al. ('267) method
with the Downs et al. ('609) method in order to improve the security of the system.

As per claim 28,

Graham et al. ('267) discloses the method of claim 27,

Graham et al. ('267) does not explicitly disclose generating a log record indicative of
retrieving said encrypted stored electronic document. Downs et al. ('609) discloses generating a
log record indicative of retrieving said encrypted stored electronic document; (Figure 1C) It
would be obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to
combine the Graham et al. ('267) method with the Downs et al. ('609) method in order to profile
consumer spending trends.

As per claim 29,

Graham et al. ('267) discloses the method of claim 28,

Graham et al. ('267) does not explicitly disclose decrypting said encrypted retrieved electronic document. Downs et al. ('609) discloses decrypting said encrypted retrieved electronic document;(Figure 1D) It would be obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the Graham et al. ('267) method with the Downs et al. ('609) method in order to profile consumer spending trends.

As per claim 30,

Graham et al. ('267) discloses the method of claim 1,
wherein said processing application comprises a commercially available billing application. (Column 2, lines 28-39)

As per claim 31,

Graham et al. ('267) discloses the method of claim 1,
wherein said billing information is provided to said processing application electronically. (Column 9, lines 38-42)

As per claim 32,

Graham et al. ('267) discloses the method of claim 31,
wherein said billing information is provided to said processing application electronically via a recordable media.

As per claim 33,

Graham et al. ('267) discloses the method of claim 31,
wherein said billing information is provided to said processing application electronically via a communications link. (Column 9, lines 38-42)

As per claim 34,

Graham et al. ('267) discloses the method of claim 33,
wherein said communications link comprises said computer network. (Column 9, lines 38-42)

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 35-116 are allowable over the prior art record.

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Claim 24 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

Examiners note: Examiner has cited particular columns and line numbers in the references as applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings of the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant in preparing responses, to fully consider the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the examiner.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John M Winter whose telephone number is (703) 305-3971. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-6, 1st Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James P Trammell can be reached on (703)305-9768. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (763) 872-9306 for regular communications and (703) 305-7687 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

JMW
March 7, 2005

JAMES P. TRAMMELL
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